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Virginia! Fair Virginia!

EDWIN FAIRFAX NAULTY

Dedicated to the Old Commonwealth and the Maid



AUTHOR'S SPECIAL EDITION

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VIRGINIA! FAIR VIRGINIA!

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By sweet Potomac waters my fancy fondly strays

To Old Dominion homesteads and scenes of other days;

To dear fields of my boyhood, where grew the golden corn,
In well beloved Virginia, the State where I was born.

And o'er my mem'ry stealing come all the dear old names

Of Blue Ridge, Shenandoah, Mount Vernon and the James;
I see the mellow sunlight sweep over Hampton tide,
And watch the ships go sailing 'way down by Norfolk side.



My well beloved Virginia! No land so dear to me,
Whose famous son, George Washington, forever made us free;
While rolls the broad Potomac, while York stream seeks the sea,
At morning gun or set of sun my toast shall always be
Virginia! Fair Virginia!



My well beloved Virginia! Oft at my mother's knee
I heard the brave recital of deeds well done for thee;
Of gentle maids and matrons, who graced each cot and hall,
Of steadfast sons and fathers, responsive to thy call.
Dear Presidential Mother! Fame crowns thy stately brow
For Monroe's sturdy doctrine, for Patrick Henry's vow,
For Jefferson and Randolph, for Madison and Lee,
For all thy men of mettle and gallant chivalry.



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While rolls the broad Potomac, while York stream seeks the sea,
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By sweet Potomac waters again to-night dwell I,

The moon lights up the river, the stars blaze in the sky,

My heritage is ample, my friends are gathered near,

My fields are broad and fertile, my home is filled with cheer,

And all is peace and plenty, joy reigns within my soul,

Contentment is my portion, my life has found its goal,

For crowned in orange blossoms, my love stands by my side,

Sweet Anne of Shenandoah, Virginia's fairest bride.



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